



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Patent and Trademark Office

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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/755,489 01/05/01 LIN

H A0-079 US

EXAMINER

MM91/1001

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ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED:

10/01/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/755,489

Applicant(s)

LIN ET AL.

Examiner

Edwin A. León

Art Unit

2833

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) ____.
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 4. 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by McCaffrey et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,238,413). With regard to Claim 1, McCaffrey et al. discloses an electrical connector (1), comprising: a molded plastic housing (2) having an elongated body portion (38) defining a front mating face (4) and a rear terminating face of the connector (1), a plurality of terminal-receiving passages (passages where terminals 40 are located) defined by wall means extending between the mating (4) and terminating faces, and the wall means being of generally uniform thickness between the faces; and a plurality of conductive terminals (40) mounted in the terminal-receiving passages (passages where terminals 40 are located). See Attachment 1 and Figs. 4-6.

With regard to Claim 2, McCaffrey et al. discloses the wall means including outside walls. See Attachment 1 and Figs. 5-6.

With regard to Claim 3, McCaffrey et al. discloses the molded plastic housing (2) including enlarged end portions at opposite ends of the elongated body portion (38), the

body portion (38) being narrower than the end portions. See Attachment 1 and Figs. 5-6.

With regard to Claim 4, McCaffrey et al. discloses the connector (1) being a combination connector (1) with the elongated body portion (38) including a data section (40) of the connector (1) and at least one of the enlarged end portions including a power section (32) of the connector (1). See Attachment 1 and Figs. 5-6.

With regard to Claim 5, McCaffrey et al. discloses the terminals (40) being signal terminals and the power section (32) including at least one power terminal mounted therein. See Attachment 1 and Figs. 5-6.

With regard to Claim 6, McCaffrey et al. discloses an electrical connector (1), comprising: a molded plastic housing (2) having an elongated body portion (38) longitudinally extending between opposite end portions, a plurality of terminal-receiving passages (passages where terminals 40 are located) extending transversely through the body portion (38), and the end portions being wider than the body portion (38) there between; and a plurality of conductive terminals (40) mounted in the terminal-receiving passages (passages where terminals 40 are located). See Attachment 1 and Figs. 5-6.

With regard to Claim 7, McCaffrey et al. discloses the passages (passages where terminals 40 are located) being at least in part defined by outside walls of the elongated body portion (38), the walls being of generally uniform thickness throughout. See Attachment 1 and Figs. 5-6.

With regard to Claim 8, McCaffrey et al. discloses the connector (1) being a combination connector (1) with the elongated body portion (38) including a data section

(40) of the connector (1) and at least one of the end portions including a power section (32) of the connector (1). See Attachment 1 and Figs. 5-6.

With regard to Claim 9, McCaffrey et al. discloses the terminals (40) being signal terminals and the power section (32) includes at least one power terminal mounted therein. See Attachment 1 and Figs. 5-6.

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Schell et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,217,347), Kuo (U.S. Patent No. 6,168,453), Eck (U.S. Patent No. 4,993,965), Thantrakul et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,816,842) and Crane, Jr. et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,637,019) disclose electrical connectors having molded plastic housings having wall means and terminal receiving passages.


4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edwin A. León whose telephone number is (703) 308-6253. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 9:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on (703) 308-2319. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722 for regular communications and (703) 308-7722 for After Final communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.


P. AUSTIN BRADLEY
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

EAL
September 26, 2001

